



Wisconsin Crop Progress

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

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Each growing season the USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office works to provide an accurate report depicting the progress of crop planting, growth (development), and harvest, as well as current crop conditions. Due to the nature of the report, the title has been changed to "Wisconsin Crop Progress". If you are interested in weather data in addition to what is provided in the table on the following page, please reference one of the following sites.

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
<http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
<http://www.cocorahs.org/>

Mid-April Snow Fall Delays Fieldwork

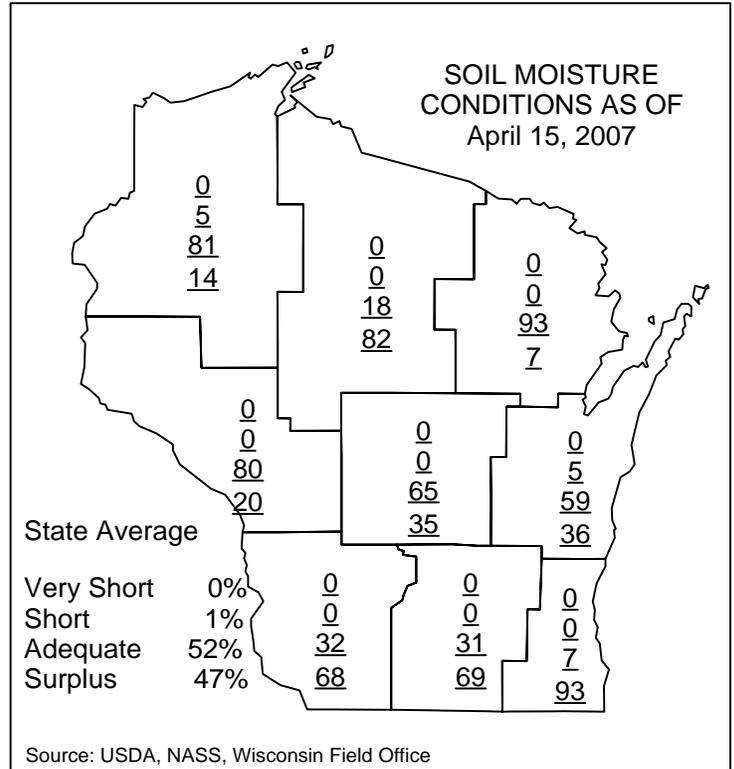
Snow fall and wet field conditions have kept most farmers out of the fields. Average temperatures were 6 to 8 degrees below normal throughout the state. Average high temperatures reached only to the mid 40s, while average low temperatures ranged from the mid 20s to the low 30s. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.16 inches in Green Bay to 0.65 inches in Milwaukee. Green Bay is the only reporting station with below normal precipitation since March 1. Soil Moisture conditions were at 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 52 percent adequate, and 47 percent surplus. There was an average of 1.3 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Oats planted was at 2 percent complete, below last year's average of 12 percent and the 5-year average of 18 percent. Planting continues to be limited to lighter soil types.

Spring Tillage was reported at 2 percent complete, below last year's average of 8 percent and the 5-year average of 12 percent. Heavy snow fall in the middle of the week kept activity down. As temperatures warmed up at the end of the week, some farmers were able to get into the fields.

Alfalfa and **winter wheat** conditions are varied across the state. Minimal winter kill has been seen in northern areas. However, time is still needed to fully access the conditions. Alfalfa and winter wheat have suffered frost damage from the past two weeks of cold temperatures. Crops in the southern areas of the state appear to have come through the winter fine.

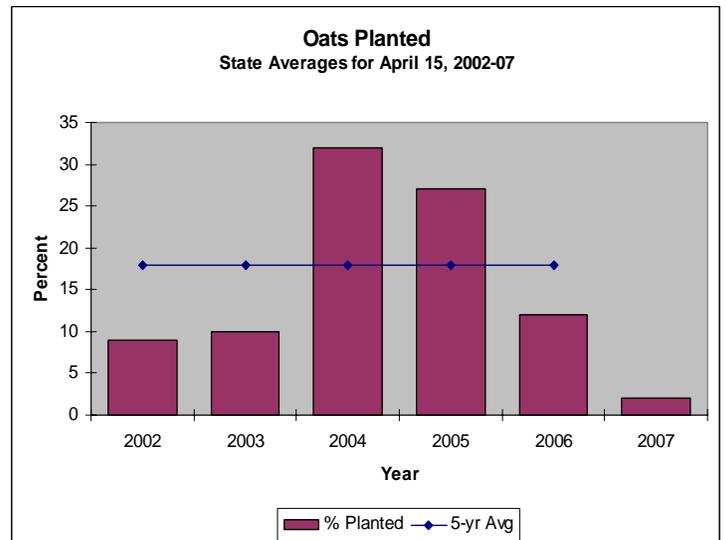
Manure and **fertilizer** were being applied in many areas of the state last week. **Potato** planting began in the central area of the state. **Apple trees** were reported to be affected by the cold temperatures.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 15, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	1	2	23	58	16
Pasture	7	15	29	41	8

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-C.P.: Alfalfa seems to be coming out of winter in good shape.

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Alfalfa appears to be O.K. at this point, many plants are greening up. Some tillage is taking place on lighter soils.

POLK-R.S.: After snow last week, the past 2-3 days have warmed up, and fields are nearly ready to start spring work. Many concerns for alfalfa winterkill due to the recent cold weather, but none of any significance has been confirmed.

MARATHON-M.K.: There is no fieldwork as of yet.

SHAWANO-B.R.: No fieldwork has been done around here yet. We should be in good shape for soil moisture in this area. Cold and wet weather has set wheat and alfalfa back.

LACROSSE-S.H.: The weather forecast calls for a nice week ahead, and that should lead to some fieldwork starting. There have been a few concerns about winterkill and reduced yields after the cold weather, but time will tell what effect it really had.

PEPIN-W.P.: Ground is still frozen. Can not tell about winterkill.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: I saw one producer putting Anhydrous down and some tillage done-likely for early peas. Sunshine will bring equipment out and rolling today.

PORTAGE-D.Z.: Alfalfa and winter wheat is good so far. Waiting for Mother Nature to cooperate. Planted a few potatoes.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Alfalfa and winter wheat seem to have come through the winter in excellent condition. There is no field activity as of yet. The ground was frozen every morning and then we got a snow storm. The only activity going on is spreading manure and fertilizer.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: Still in holding pattern with last week's snowfall.

OUTAGAMIE-K.J.: Some alfalfa did receive frost damage. Age of the stand and soil type influenced the extent of damage. Older stands will have a reduced stem count per plant. Snow late in the week prevented much progress for tillage and any oats or new seeding alfalfa. While we had some corn planted last year at this time, if we look at the 10 year averages, we should still be able to get crops in soon enough if spring arrives and stays.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: Winter wheat is generally looking very good. Warm and favorable weather this coming week is critical for the alfalfa crop

GRANT-R.R.: Snow storm mid-week put fieldwork on hold.

IOWA-S.M.: A blizzard this past week kept everything at a complete standstill.

COLUMBIA-R.S.: Winter wheat looked really good until the very cold nights. It has lost its color and has to re-grow.

ROCK-C.O.: Some tillage was done on Monday, but other than that, it put everything on hold.

ROCK-J.S.: Fieldwork is limited to manure hauling. Wheat appears to be recovering well from the hard freeze.

WASHINGTON-R.B.: It is too hard to tell about winterkill yet with the snow. It is not good here with water and ice in the fields. Alfalfa was 3.0 inches tall and then it froze.

WASHINGTON-K.R.: Wheat and alfalfa are set back because of the cold weather.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: There is no evidence of winterkill. We had 10.0 inches of snow on Wednesday on top of very wet ground. No fieldwork is being done in April. This may result in lower yields for first cutting and some loss of plants in older stands.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 15, 2007

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to April 14	Mar. 1 to April 14 normal *	Last week	Since March 1	March 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	47	25	58	16	36	-7	79	32	0.21	3.67	0.54	5.29	0.30
Green Bay	44	28	54	23	36	-6	75	28	0.16	3.17	-0.09	5.19	-0.27
La Crosse	47	28	58	25	38	-8	101	52	0.35	3.71	0.21	6.25	0.57
Madison	44	28	53	21	36	-8	100	56	0.60	5.63	1.81	8.06	1.72
Milwaukee	43	31	51	25	37	-6	107	n.a.	0.65	5.50	1.14	7.72	-0.15

1/Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. n.a. = not available. T = trace. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.